

# THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1911.

## THE HARBOR OPENING.

Today brought the hopes of thirty-five years to a consummation. The flag-ship of an American fleet went into Pearl Harbor and informally opened it as an American naval base. In 1876 this was looked for much sooner, and it was then thought that the base would be had by grace of treaty with an existing and surrounding monarchy. But Hawaii became American first; and the opening of Pearl Harbor has occurred within the limits of American soil.

The people have taken a keen interest in this event. The former sovereign took part with the Governor and Admiral in the festivities and there seemed to be nobody left to regret the occurrences which have led to such a significant chapter of local history.

## DR. SCUDDER'S MODIFIED VIEWS.

Rev. Dr. Scudder came from a long talk with the health people with, as he says, "a decided modification of opinion about some features of the campaign." He does not withdraw his opinion that "doubt exists" about the yellow fever diagnosis, but accepts the unanimous view of the board that the cases were real and that there was no room for doubt. To admit that, however, as the Star did long ago, shows how baseless was the scare about a wide mortality when there was not even a critical illness. Dr. Scudder, however, believes the scare to have been good for the community and if the final result is the abolition of wet farming and mosquito-breeding swamps, the public may easily come to agree with him.

With regard to Colonel Elbert it is explained to Dr. Scudder by the board that his reference to larvae in bamboo meant larvae in broken bamboo. The board's organ, however, left this out of its report of Colonel Elbert's speech, probably in fear that people would ask, if they knew the whole story, what mosquitoes in broken bamboo, any more than mosquitoes in broken tin cans, had to do with the postulate about mosquitoes in unbroken banana stalks? This question still holds good, and on the main issue, the danger in bananas, the opinion of the entomologists remains unchanged. And who knows more about it than they?

Dr. Scudder finds no excuse for the insolence of some of the banana-cutting parties but holds that failure to complain is lack of public spirit in view of the board's readiness to do the fair thing. But has the board shown any such readiness? At the start, as the Advertiser's news columns will show, nobody was able to get any satisfaction for his complaints. People who objected to the methods of the crusade were treated with arrogance, they were flouted personally and in print and told that the board would go ahead in any event. This drove some of them to take out injunctions which they cannot get heard—those injunctions which Dr. Blue jeered at as "old friends." Fair play, forsooth! Take the W. A. Kinney bananas for one example! They were cut away to within 150 feet of all houses. After Mr. Kinney left town they were cut down far beyond that limit, where Mr. Kinney had transferred his best varieties; and the only answer to the expropriation of his agent was irrelevant and flippant, like the answer every other complainant gets or with reason fears to get.

Dr. Scudder's views on the main point are not so completely in favor of the board as the Advertiser would make it appear. He thinks that under the threat of yellow fever, as at first presented, the Board of Health was justified in directing in part its campaign against standing bananas—a very conservative statement indeed; but he does not see why, now that the crisis is passed, the bananas' roots should be grubbed out? Nor does anyone else, especially in view of Dr. Gorgas' action in the Panama Zone. Even if bananas were first cut down at Panama as Dr. Pratt says, cut down with everything else on each side of the canal, their reinstatement by Dr. Gorgas about his hospital and schools is sufficient evidence that are not regarded as mosquito-breeding by the men who freed the Zone of the mosquito pest. The board also assured Dr. Scudder that bananas were sacrificed at Durban and the statement seems to have influenced him. The Star gives him and others more light on the Durban case in this issue.

Dr. Scudder's letter to the Star was not a recantation but a modification of opinion. He still holds that the board should have shown less of a military attitude towards the people; that it neglected the duty of keeping public confidence; that it should not have flouted the insectarians and should not have grubbed up banana roots. As a man of peace he would like to see the rub-in-policy abandoned so that all may co-operate in the salvation of Honolulu from its insular curse. But the fear that the good Doctor is too optimistic about a Board which is still hurrying out its bands of depredators in the apparent hope of making a clean sweep before the courts are permitted to act on the question of justice and fair play as presented in the Mills and Bellini injunction suits.

## THE HILO STREET CAR FRANCHISE.

Under the amendments to the Hilo street car franchise which have just been settled upon by Governor Frear, modern ideas in work of this character have been brought into play in a much greater degree than ever before in this Territory. The most important feature of the amendments is without doubt that which provides that the Government may at any time force further extensions to the system, when the opinion of an impartial commission shall decide that such extensions are necessary and will, when considered in connection with the other parts of the railroad, pay a reasonable rate of interest. The forcing of a public service corporation to give good and sufficient public service under such a provision will be of great value in years to come. Almost equally important is the clause which limits the stock and bonds of the company and prevents undue "water." The public should not be forced to pay interest upon shares of this character and the wisdom of such a move at this time must be apparent to all. The street car company on the other hand has much to be thankful for. It receives a low rate upon the desired water power for a period of time sufficient to allow it to get upon its feet financially and after that the rate will be one to be agreed upon through the very proper method of settlement by an impartial commission. This should ensure the financing of the street car system, which will prove without doubt one of the greatest benefits to Hilo which that growing town has yet experienced. It is indeed fortunate that water power, without which such a system would be possible for some years to come, offers this opportunity for Hilo's advancement.

## TIME TO RETRENCH.

The Chamber of Commerce could not be in better business than to take up the question of public economy. As President Spalding points out, "the bonded debt, which was wiped out at the time of annexation, has now run up to \$5,500,000, with \$1,500,000 more authorized by the last legislature, for which a payday must come both for principal and interest," yet in spite of this "we are sailing along at a glorious rate in running into debt with a margin of only \$3,000,000 left of, say, the \$10,000,000 limit fixed under the Organic Act, or seven per cent. of say \$15,000,000, the assessed real property valuation; and with all this expenditure of money what have we to show for it throughout the Territory?"

This is plain talk and talk that is needed, especially in view of projects for million dollar extensions of sewer and water systems and a \$2,000,000 proposal to put Honolulu harbor in readiness for an improbable superfluity of tonnage.

## BUNCO CLAIMS EXPOSED.

The morning paper tells its confiding readers, if it has any, that it is ahead in the news of the fleet, but, as usual, the claim doesn't stand probing. It says that it was first to announce the cruise around the island. This was on December 1. On November 29, the Star said: "The boats will remain at the wharves until Saturday and then it is supposed will take a cruise around the island." Two days later the

## Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

I see the aviators sail o'erhead; like birds they ride the gale. And when they to the earth descend I throw them posies without end, and I embrace them till they're hurt, and whoop and yell and when my fervor dies away, I lean against myself and say: "The man who mows a weedy place is doing more to help the race; the worker makes the planet smile—I'll go and whoop for him awhile." I see the wrestlers, lithe and strong, engage in struggles fierce and long; I marvel at their mighty throws, and shriek cockadoodledoos when one climbs on another's frame and breaks his neck and wins the game. But when the wrestling match is o'er, and I go toddling to my door, I mutter to myself a length: "It was a fearful waste of strength! The vim those athletes threw away would bale a hundred tons of hay! Tomorrow I shall go and yell for some one who has dug a well! The men who work with picks or saws are most deserving of applause!"

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WALT MASON

Advertiser confirmed the fact and now boasts of a great feat. Again our belated contemporary says it was first to announce the visit to Hilo. In point of fact the Star said on the day of the fleet's arrival: "Each ship, it is expected, will go to Hilo, one at a time, and allow the crews to see Kilauea volcano." Acting on this invaluable hint, the "organ of yesterday," got what it calls a scoop. Next it announced that it "gave the first news from the cruise around the island of Oahu," and as the first paper to be published after the ships came back, it could hardly have helped doing otherwise, though the public had to wait for its Star to get a good account. As to the morning paper's "exclusive interview" with Admiral Thomas it might as well have been a relish of the Star's previous statement of that officer's views.

But this is not all of the Advertiser's bunco talk. We read with no surprise the story that the paper "was the first to announce Admiral Thomas' intention to take the California into Pearl Harbor." Its publication was on Thursday, December 14. The public will read, also without surprise, that the Star, on Wednesday, December 6, announced the probability that Admiral Thomas would take the California up Pearl Harbor channel.

For fair play's sake the Star is willing to concede that the morning paper scooped them all on the announcement that Lieutenant Commander Philip Andrews was dead, but apart from that noticeable piece of fiction its special naval news has its roots deep in previous Star publication. But perhaps the Advertiser doesn't know it. Besides being muzzled and leg-tied there seems to be something the matter with its eyes.

The statement made repeatedly that the Advertiser was "muzzled" and that it could not publish anything not approved of by the committee is unwarranted, untrue and has been so styled by the chairman of the sanitary committee, whose denial has not prevented the charge being made over and over again since it was published.—Advertiser.

What about the editor's admissions to W. R. Castle in that letter telling why he couldn't print Mr. Castle's communication?

Dr. Scudder went out as a peacemaker and came back to find himself used, by the organ of the board, as cause for a further scrap.

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

PROFESSOR U. THOMPSON—We have developed another crop of wrigglers in our oil barrel which the entomologists ought to come out and see.

ADMIRAL COWLES—The passage of the U. S. S. California up the channel to Pearl Harbor must not be taken as a formal opening. It is nothing of the kind.

GERRIT WILDER—The hibiscus blooms at the poultry show were sent in by private individuals and were not an exhibit made by the Hawaiian Hibiscus Club.

CAPTAIN BERGER—Yes, the band will be on hand next Sunday for the walking race. The boys enjoy the annual event and the crowd always likes the music.

KAPPELMEISTER BERGER—My boys will play at the Waikiki Inn on Sunday afternoon for the walking races. They like to play on that occasion, for they always have a big audience.

JACK JONES—I wonder what the next bright youth will think of to

indict on a gullible Honolulu public. This is an easy town to work, sure. Fakers of all sorts do well here, and most of them get away with the goods too.

SHERIFF JARRETT—It is wonderful how many stories of accidents, in which people are killed, go the rounds of the town. When sifted down it generally resolves into some kind of a slight mix-up between a hack and a wheelbarrow, and nobody is injured at all.

ARCHIE ROBERTSON—I think that the time limit in the Kalakaua avenue walking race should be twenty-one minutes instead of nineteen minutes. I have been training for the race and know from experience that anyone who makes the distance in twenty-one minutes jolly well earns a prize.

L. C. ABLES—The judging at the poultry show has shown that it is no longer necessary to send to the mainland for a judge. It is too bad that the entries were not larger. A good

many people think that the annual show is a money-making device. This is far from so. It is not an uncommon thing for members of the association to have to dig down into their own pockets.

F. G. KRAUSS—The model portable poultry house now on exhibition at the poultry show is well worth attention. It is an eminently practical scheme whereby a small householder may get the best out of a flock of two dozen hens. The cost of the house is only \$20, and if I were in the business I should want nothing better than to erect any quantity of such houses at such a figure.

MAJOR G. C. POTTER—It is just twenty-one years since C. W. Ashford as attorney general demanded King Kalakaua from signing the proposed amendment to the reciprocity treaty giving the United States the privilege, in addition to that of entering Pearl Harbor, of landing troops in case of necessity. This was denounced by its opponents as "the bayonet clause." Today we see the United States flag in California entering Pearl Harbor and saluted by United States army and navy forces of the established garrison of Hawaii.

## POULTRY SHOW'S MANY ATTRACTIONS

A feature of the Hawaiian Poultry Association's exhibit is the display of hibiscus flowers.

The flowers were donated by various growers, including the Hawaii Experiment Station, and were not sent in by the Hibiscus Society.

The Hawaii Experiment Station has a horticultural exhibit and some impressive specimens of local fruits are shown. Processes of breeding through seeds, inarching and budding are attractively demonstrated.

The Bureau of Agriculture and Forestry has an exhibit of seedling trees and another of polished samples of native and imported woods.

The College of Hawaii has an educational horticultural exhibit which is very interesting. In this section the anatomy of plants is demonstrated by models. One model on exhibition shows the different stages of development from a hen's egg to a chick.

The show has not been as well attended as it deserves to be, and it is to be hoped that between today and closing time on Saturday the attendance will show a marked increase. If this is not the case the association will be out of pocket on the exhibition.

L. C. ABLES said this morning that the show was an excellent opportunity for people to see just what was possible in the poultry-raising line in Hawaii and that every bird shown confuted the statement that it doesn't pay to raise chickens in this country.

(Per Merchants' Exchange.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Arrived, December 14, 10 a. m., S. S. Columbia for Port Allen.

SAN FRANCISCO—Arrived, December 14, 10 a. m., S. S. China; hence December 8.

HONOLULU—Sailed, December 12, 5 p. m., U. S. A. T. Logan for Manila.

S. S. MANCHURIA—Docks at Alaka wharf on Friday (tomorrow) afternoon at 6 p. m. and sails for San Francisco Saturday at 11 a. m.

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.

O. S. S. SIERRA.

Notice is hereby given that the S. S. Sierra will sail from this port February 6, 1912, instead of February 7 and on return trip will sail from San Francisco February 16, bringing her here the morning of the 22d of February in season to see the Annual Floral Parade.

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Building Lot, Kaimuki, 700.00  
Modern bungalow, College Hills 6000.00  
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## ENTERTAINMENT AND BAZAAR.

An entertainment and bazaar for the benefit of the Japanese Central Institute will be held on Friday and Saturday of this week at the school ground, Nuuanu near Vineyard street. The admission to the entertainment will be 50 cents, where exhibition of juggling, fencing and jiu-jitsu will be given. The bazaar will be free. A number of choice and rare articles will be on sale.

## HOUSES FOR RENT.

Furnished.

Hobron Avenue, 2 B. R., \$25.00  
Tantalus, 3 B. R., 40.00  
Kaimuki, 8th ave, 3-BR., 40.00  
Beretania street, 4, B. R., 65.00

Unfurnished.

Wainio, 3-BR., \$12.00  
Wilder Avenue, 6 B. R., 50.00  
Wilder Ave., 4 B. R., 20.00  
Lunalia St., 3-BR., 40.00  
Lunalia and Kaplanai  
St. 3 B. R., 45.00  
Young & Pawa Lane, 25.00  
Punchbowl St., 6-BR., 40.00  
Wilhelmina Ave., 3-BR., 35.00  
Paioio Rd., 3-BR., 30.00

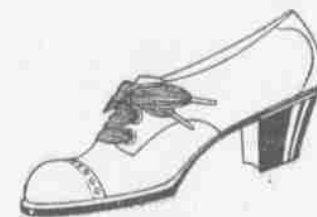
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